

(15) - 30

A TRUE
NARRATIVE
Of the Discovery, of a most Horrid
PLOT

Against His Majesty, and Royal Highness, and the
Three Kingdomes in generall.

BEING.

Carried on by many ill-affected MEN both to
KING and GOVERNMENT.
AND

How they had designed to have VVay-laid his Royal
Person, & his Brother, & to have murdered them in
their Coach, and all his Guards, coming from
NEVV-MARKET

But was prevented by the Fire that happened in
that TOWN, and so to have Risen in Open
REBELLION.

With an Account of the Tryall and Condemnation of

Capt. Walcott,

Lord Russel, Son to
the Earl of Bedford.

Hone the Joyner,

AND

John Rowe.

Who were Sentenced to be drawn, hang'd and quartered, which was according to Friday the 20. of this present *June*, and on Saturday following the Lord Russel was beheaded on a Scaffold erected for that purpose in Lincolns Inn-fields, together with their last Speeches and Confessions.

Licensed and Entred according to Order.

Printed for J. Clark at the Bible and Harp in West-Smithfield. 1683



(2)

Turi London ff.

AN Inquisition Indented, Taken at the Tower of *London*, in the County of *Middlesex*, the fourteenth Day of *July*, in the Five and Thirtieth year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord *Charles* the Second, by the Grace of God, of *England*, *Scotland*, *France* and *Ireland* King, Defender of the Faith, &c. Annoq; Dom. 1683. before *Edward Farnham* Esq; Coroner of the said Lord the King, of the Liberty of the Tower of *London*, upon view of the Body of *Arthur* Earl of *Essex* then and there lying dead, by the Oathes of *Daniel Colwell* Esq; *William Fisher*, *Thomas Godfel* Esq; *Thomas Hunt*, *Nathaniel Mountney* Esq; *Thomas Potter*, *William How*, *Robert Burgoine*, *Eleazer Wiggins*, *Thomas Hoggstle*, *Henry Cripps*, *Richard Rudder*, *William Knipps*, *John Hudson*, *John Kittlebeater*, *Lancelot Colson*, *Morgan Cowern*, *Thomas Bryan*, *Villiam Thaxton*, *Richard Cliffe*, *Zebediab Richard*, *Villiam Bayford*, and *Theophilus Charter*, good and lawfull men of the Liberty of the Tower of *London* aforesaid, who being Charged & Sworn to enquire how and in what manner the said *Arthur* Earl of *Essex* came to his Death, upon their Oaths say, That the aforesaid *Arthur* Earl of *Essex* the thirteenth day of *July*, in the said Five and thirtieth Year of his now Majesties Reign, at the said Tower of *London*, in the said County of *Middlesex*, about the Ninth hour of the same day in the Forenoon, not having God before his eyes, but being moved and seduced by the Insigation of the Devil, of his malice fore-thought at the Tower of *London* aforesaid, in the said County of *Middlesex*, then and there being alone in a Closter, with one Rasour of the value of one shilling, Voluntarily and Feloniously Cut his throat, and did thereby give himself one Mortal Wound, it being cut from the one Jugular to the other, and through the Wind-pipe and Gullet unto the Vertebres of the Neck, both Jugular Veins being also quite divided; of which said Morral Wound the said *Arthur* Earl of *Essex* instantly Died; and thus the aforesaid Jurors, upon their Oaths say, That the aforesaid *Arthur* Earl of *Essex* killed and murdered himself.



A True

NARRATIVE

Of the Discovery of a new

PLOT.



I Am sure that in all Ages since Adam, none will be so admired by our Predecessors as this Kings Raigñ will be; and to take it from 1648 to this present year 1683. and those that come to read of all those transactions a hundred years after our decease, will stand and admire what a Rebellious people there was to so good and gracious a King.

Besides 'tis enough to convince the greatest Atheist in all the world that there is a Divine Power above that protects our Dread Sovereign and keeps him from the hands of all His Enemies: How wonderfully did God preserve him in all the late Wars, in so many bloody Fights

as he was in both before and after his Royal Father was Murthered; and now we may see what wicked and ill minded men would be doing, in Plotting to rob him both of his Life and Kingdoms, as they did his Father before: And the good Church of England which does allow of nothing that is bad and sinful, has been set upon these many years by her two deadly Enemies, the Woolf and the Fox, and both strive which should pull her down first, I mean the Papists and Presbyterians, but God hitherto has been our Protector, praised be his holy name, and those evils which have been designed for others has fallen upon their own heads, and they themselves caged in their own snares, witness the late Papist Plot in 1678. and this now of the Presbyterians, this present year 1683. as will appear by this Narrative, which is published for a general satisfaction, because some make it so light as if it were not worth the speaking, and lays the odium of their hellish design upon the Papist, which I am sensible is too too bad, but I would have the old proverb stand in the right place, *The Sable to be set upon the right horse*, for I never yet came in company with any of the old Rebels, I mean Oliverians, but if I told them that the old King was murdered by the Presbyterians, they would lay it upon the Papists, and this hellish Plot I beleive they will endeavour to shake off themselves and cast it upon others, and it may be impute me for a Papist because I right so, but let such know that I have no more love for a Papist than I have for a Presbyterian, and put the Devil betwixt, and ye all are alike to me, I mean your contrivances, and that there was a wicked and bloody design on foot against King and Government will be made appear by this following Relation.

In the middle of June last came in some persons that was concerned in this Hellish design, and gave in upon Oath that there was a Plot in hand and was carryed on by many ill affected men to the King and Government, to the destruction of both, and was to be put in Execution on Palm Eve last, the time when the Court was to remove from ~~Sto Market~~ up to London, by besetting the King's Coach in a narrow Lane near ~~Whitehall~~, by a great company of Ruffins, which was to be done thus, so far as I can understand.

One Richard Rumbold a Malster in them parts, was provided with a load of wood, or Faggots to be carryed home, and just as the King was coming in his Coach with his Royal Brother, to have overthrown the Waggon or Cart in this narrow Lane, and so have stopp'd the Coach

Coach while they had done their bloody villany, which was to have been performed by Richard Rumbal, who was the person was to have killed his Majesty, the Coachman and Postilion by firing blunderbusses into the Coach through the hedges, and another party of Trayters to have come on the flanke of the Kings Guards; Foot and Horse, and to have fired on them both in the Lane and by that means to have killed them all, and then to have came up to London, and if they could to have taken the Tower, and so to have risen in open Rebellion. The Blunderbusses they called by the name of Swans Quills, Musquets by the name of Goose quills, and Pistols by the name of Crow quills, Powder, they called Lak, and shot, sand.

Here also followeth the names of those that the Bill of Indictment was found against at Guildhall, and the several witnesses to prove it whereof some of them have received their Tryals and are found guilty and have received sentence of death, to be hang'd drawn and quartered, which are Cap. Maltcott, and the Lord Russel son to the Earl of Bedford, Will. Hone the Joyner, and John Rouse, Will. Blake a Sea Captain is acquitted: Those not yet brought to Tryal are Rich. Rumbal witnesses against him 3, both the Goodenoughs witnesses against them 4. James Burton 4. Will. Compton 2. Edward Norton 3. James Hallaway 4. Rich. Felthorp 2. James Taylor 3. John Roe 3. James Duke of Monmouth 2. John Lord Gray 2. Sir Thomas Armstrong Knight 2. Rob. Fergusson 3. Sir John Mordaunt the late Lord Mayor of London was to have been kild, as also the present Lord Mayor and Sheriffs and their cloths to have been stuff out with straw and so hung up in Guild hall: Their places of meeting was in Lombard Street, Ludgate Hill, and Mile end green.

The first that came to his Tryal was will. Hone, who desired that the Plea he made the day before might be allowed, which was, that he wa Guilty of a Conspiracy, but not of providing Arms to raise a Rebellion, which was not allowed, and therefore pleaded not guilty to the whole. This Indictment imported, that as a false Traytor he had Conspired to depose the King of his Crown and dignity, and that particularly at a Consult, the 2 of March 25. Cap. Secundi in the Parish of St. Michael Bishop, where were present Rumbold, Fergusson, Hollinay, Roe, Francis, and Rich. Goodenough, and many other of the trayterous

Traiterous Conspirators, and that when they spoke of killing the King and Duke, they called the former *blackbird*, and the latter *Gold-finch*; the Prisoner Confessing he did conspire the Death of the *Black-bird*, but not the *Gold-finch*.

Mr. Keeling being sworn, said that the Prisoner came acquainted with him by *Goodenough*, and that he was one in the intended Assassination of His Majesty and Duke of York: Mr. *Woff* insisted much to the same effect; and Sir *Nicholas Butler* deposed that he confessed Matter in Relation to the said Horrid Conspiracy, which being plain proof to the Jury, they brought him in Guilty of the Indictment, without going from the Bar.

The Lieutenant of the Tower having with great Guards brought the Lord *Russel* from the Tower, surrendered him up to Sheriff *North*, who immediately brought him up to the Court, where his Indictment was read, (*viz.* for Conspiring the death of the King, &c. with *James Duke of Monmouth*, *Ford Lord Gray*, *Sir Tho. Armesstrong*, and *Robert Ferguson*) to which having pleaded not guilty, and desired longer time, (which the King's Council opposed) he excepted against the Jury, as not being Free-holders, which being a matter of Law, the Court appointed Mr. *Pollexfen*, Mr. *Holt*, and Mr. *Ward* to argue it for his Lordship, which being done, the Court over-ruled it, whereupon the Jury was called, two and thirty of which his Lordship peremptorily challenged.

The Jury being Sworn, and the Indictment read, the Kings Council learnedly opened it, and dilated much on the Main facts of the Crimes alledged against him.

Colonel *Rumsey* being the first Witness, deposed that the Prisoner, together with the Persons aforesaid, being at Mr. *Shepherds* a Vintner in the Parish of St. *Nicholas Bassan*, he was sent to them by the Earl of *Sharrisbury*, to know what forwardness they were in, as to an Insurrection; and that they received answer, that Mr. *Trenchard*, who had promised to raise 1000

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Foot and 4000 Horse, to be aiding in the Design, had certified them by a Letter, that it could not as yet be effected, because some would not rush on such a great Concern, without deliberation correspondent to it.

Mr. *Shepherd* then deposed, that being a Vintner, the persons before mentioned being come to his House, they desired a private Room; where he heard the consulting about an Insurrection, and to his best remembrance, there was a discourse of seizing the Guards.

The last was the Lord *Howard* of *Essex*, who upon Oath declared the Conspiracy at large; wherein he the said Earl of *Shaftsbury* was the Contriver of it, that he was dissatisfied in the coldness of the Lords in it, that he had ten thousand men in the City at his beck, that divers Messages passed betwixt them; but it being put off from time to time, the Earl at last went for *Holland* to secure himself, where he died; that *Aaron Smith* was dispatched to *Scotland*, to perswade the *Gentry* to Rise there; that they had constituted a Committee of six, which consisted of the Lord *Russel*, Lord *Howard*, Duke of *Monmouth*, Earl of *Essex*, Mr. *Sidney*, and Mr. *Hambden* the younger.

Sidney was sent by them to see what posture the Guards were in; that they had money ready to carry on the Design, but expected more from *Holland*.

The Lord *Russel* confessed he was at the Consult, but came late, that he went to *Shepherds* only to taste Wines; he then produced several Persons of Quality in his behalf, touching his Reputation, but the Jury after some consideration, brought him in Guilty.

Then *Rouse* came on, against whom it was sworn much to the same effect, who was also brought in Guilty of the Indictment for endeavouring to kill the King, &c.

Captain *Blagt* was arraigned, for that his part was to seize the Tower, but several Circumstances appearing to the Jury of his Innocence; they brought him in not Guilty.

Then were the Lord *Russel*, Capt. *Walcot*, *Will. Bone* and *John Rouse* brought to the Bar where they received Sentence to be drawn hang'd and quartered.



The Trials over, and Sentence as is specified, they were carried to *Newgate*, where for the most part they were kept allunder; yet had divers of their Friends came to visit them, and many godly Ministers to give them advice for their souls health, laying before them the hainousness of the Crime; and the rather because they had sinned against such goodness; and aggravated the Crime in Conspiring against the Life of a Prince, under whom they did and might have lived happily: but seeing Divine Justice had overtaken them, and no hopes of continuing long in this world, they would spend the few moments that were left them to the advantage of their immortal souls: To this and such like Ghostly advice, they were observed to be very attentive, especially *Hone*, who expressed abundance of sorrow for the greatness of his offence; saying, that by reason of his former Sins, and his refusing to be reclaimed God had suffered him to fall into this great temptation; desiring the prayers of all good men, saying that if he might live, all the business of his Life would prove insufficient to expiate so great a crime.

Walcott and *Rouse* appeared more retired and reserved, the former seeming for the most part wilfully obstinate or morose; yet in his countenance appeared a remorse and regret for what he had acted, seeming rather to confess than deny the heinous design.

The Lord *Rossells* speech.

AS for the Sentence of Death passed upon me, I cannot but think it a very hard one. For nothing was sworn against me (whether true or false, I will not now examine) but some Discourses about making some Stirs. And this is not levying War against the King, which is Treason by the Statute of *Edward the Third*; and not the consulting and discoursing about it, which was all that was witnessed against me. But, by a strange Fetch, the design of seizing the Guards, was construed a design of killing the King.

And now I have truly and sincerely told what my part was in that, which cannot be more than a bare Misprision; and yet I am condemned as guilty of a design of killing the King. I pray God lay not this to the charge, neither of the King's Council, nor Judges, nor Sheriffs, nor Jury: And for the Witnesses I pity them, and wish them well. I shall not reckon up the particulars wherein they did me wrong; I had rather their own Consciences should do that, to which, and the mercies of God, I leave them. Only I shall averr, that what I said of my not hearing Col. *Rumsey* deliver any Message from my Lord *Shaftsbury*, was true; for I always detested Lying, tho' never so much to my advantage.

F I N I S.

A S E R M O N .
O F
T H A N K S G I V I N G

For the Happy Delivery of
C H A R L E S the Second
K I N G of England, &c.

From the Conspiracy of 1683. $\frac{M, E.}{K}$

Preached the ninth of September 1683.
in Thomas-Town in the County of
K I L K E N N Y.

R O T T E R D A M,

Printed for P. K. and are to be Sold by
William Weston in Christ-Church-Lane
Dublin.